



Preliminary Agenda

Thursday, September 25, 2025

12:30–1:30 **Conference Kickoff / Library Award Presentations**

- Angela Bonnell, Depository Library Council Chair, Head of Government Information and Maps, Milner Library, Illinois State University
- Hugh N. Halpern, Director, U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO)
- Scott Matheson, Superintendent of Documents, GPO

During this opening session, the event will be officially called to order, and opening remarks will be delivered. Awards for the 2025 Federal Depository Library of the Year and Federal Depository Website of the Year will also be presented.

1:30–2:00 **Keynote Address**

2:00–2:15 **Break**

2:15–3:00 **Value of FDLP Libraries**

- Brent Abercrombie, Regional Coordinator, Reference Librarian, Indiana State Library
- Heather Getsay, Depository Coordinator, Bailey Library, Slippery Rock University
- Rick Mikulski, Instruction & Research Librarian, Swem Library, William & Mary

This panel presentation will offer various perspectives on how the value of the FDLP is effectively communicated to patrons, the public, and to library staff and administration.

2:15–4:00 **Promoting Materials in a Digital World**

- Anna Xiong, Head of the Kelley Center for Government Information Resources and Civic Engagement, Fondren Library, Rice University
- Kaitlyn Moody, Government Documents Manager, Marx Library, University of South Alabama
- Lauren Hall, Metadata & Collection Management, Government Documents, California State University, Stanislaus
- Lisa Pritchard, Director of Library Services, Jefferson College Library
- Susanne Caro, Government Documents Librarian, New Mexico State Library

How do you promote Government publications in a digital world? Hear from a panel of librarians as they share examples of displays, guides, and other tools to promote electronic materials. Learn about what works well and the resources available and tools to help you judge the effectiveness of your efforts.

****There will be a 15-minute break from 3:00-3:15 p.m. (ET).*

3:00-3:15 **Break**

3:15–4:00 **DLC: Meeting the Government Information Needs of Speakers of Non-English Languages**

- Jane Canfield, Librarian (retired), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Puerto Rico
- Eva Raison, Director of Outreach Services, Brooklyn Public Library
- Brittany Young, Law Librarian/Program Manager, Lane County Law Library

The Depository Library Council's Unique Challenges and Underserved Populations Subcommittee has investigated many aspects of underserved populations in Federal depository libraries. One of the challenges identified by depository librarians is working with speakers of languages other than English. This panel discussion will inform attendees about resources and best practices for providing Government information services to library users who lack proficiency in English.

4:00–4:15 **Break**

- 4:15–5:15 **New GovInfo Content and Enhancements**
- Megan Minta, Collection Development Librarian, Library Services & Content Management (LSCM), GPO
 - Amanda Dunn, Program Planner, Agency Strategic Programs & GovInfo (ASPG), GPO

Join us to learn about new content and features added to GovInfo over the past year. Highlights include launch of the new U.S. Reports collection, Volumes 2 (1790) through 501 (1991); RSS feeds for search results; release of USLM XML files for the digitized Statutes at Large; historic publications digitized by, or in collaboration with, partner libraries; customizations for new content; and so much more.

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- 4:15–5:15 **Regional Libraries Meeting**
- Regional Government Information Librarians (REGIL)

The Regional Libraries Meeting is open to all. The meeting will cover topics of relevance to regional FDLP libraries and will be led by regional coordinators from across the country.

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- 5:15 **Adjourn**
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Friday, September 26, 2025

- 12:00–12:50 **Council is Listening**
- Facilitator: Angela Bonnell, Depository Library Council Chair, Head of Government Information and Maps, Milner Library, Illinois State University

This session is about the community! Council wants to hear what is on your mind. Help us facilitate the session by sharing feedback on what you find concerning or exciting in areas such as FDLP access, advocacy, collaboration, collections, and services. To make the most of the “Council is Listening” session, please submit your feedback ahead of time in the conference portal by the close of business on Monday, September 22, 2025. All registrants will receive an email about conference portal access in mid-September. Your feedback will be used to create interactive polls during the session. It will also guide Council as it advises the GPO Director on information policy issues affecting depository libraries and the FDLP.

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- 12:50–1:00 **Break**
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1:00–2:00 **Intro to GPO’s Inspector General: Resources for FDLP Libraries**

1:00–2:00 **Passing the Torch: Navigating a Government Documents Transition with Heart, Humor, and a Hint of Chaos**

- Laurie Aycock, Collection Strategy Librarian, Kennesaw State University
- Stephanie Ard, Collegiate Librarian for the Social Sciences, Kennesaw State University Libraries

What happens when a longtime Government documents coordinator steps into a broader strategic role during a sweeping library reorganization, and another experienced librarian takes on the depository coordinator title for the first time? This session explores one library’s coordinator transition amid shifting responsibilities, a major weeding project, and digital-first realities. Presenters will share how they approached the handoff from both sides: preparing documentation, managing institutional memory, and navigating all the feelings that come with saying goodbye—or hello—to a legacy collection. With a mix of practical tools and honest reflection, this session is for anyone preparing to pass the torch, receive it mid-stride, or just trying not to drop it entirely.

2:00-2:15 **Break**

2:15–3:15 **History Lab AI: A New Way to Explore a Vast Corpus of Declassified Documents**

- Matthew Connelly, Professor of History, Columbia University
- Ray Hicks, Research Manager, History Lab
- Nick Chimicles, Researcher, History Lab

This session will provide a deep dive into History Lab AI, a free research tool built on a corpus of more than 5 million declassified government documents. The project’s mission is to make historical records more accessible by enabling natural language and embedding-based search, offering a powerful alternative to traditional keyword methods. We will discuss the philosophy behind this approach, practical differences in search experiences, and principles of retrieval-augmented generation. Attendees will be encouraged to try the tool in real time, ask questions, and share feedback.

2:15–3:15 **Adventures in Government Comics: Discovering, Preserving, and Promoting a Hidden Collection**

- Tasha McClain, Government Information Librarian, University of North Texas, Sycamore Library
- Bobby Griffith, Lead Government Information Reference Associate, University of North Texas

Government comics are one of the most interesting and fun aspects of the Government Publications collection at the University of North Texas Sycamore Library, but because they are scattered among many different agencies, take on a bewildering variety of formats, and are not always well-indexed in the library catalog, these fascinating publications all too often have languished unseen by and unknown to the general public and even to library staff. Join us as we share the thrilling story of how we have been discovering, preserving, and promoting Government comics at UNT's Sycamore Library. We will share the principles we have learned over the years — principles that can be applied at your own library, not just to Government comics, but to other hidden collections as well. Perhaps you too have a story to share!

3:15-3:30 **Break**

3:30–4:30 **DLC: Business Meeting**

- Angela Bonnell, Depository Library Council Chair, Head of Government Information and Maps, Milner Library, Illinois State University
- Members of the DLC

During this session, Council business and potential recommendations to GPO will be discussed.

3:30–4:30 **FDLP and Beyond: Tracking and Responding to Changes in Federal Government Information Access**

- Sanga Sung, Government Information Librarian, University Library, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Jenny McBurney, Government Publications Librarian, Government Publications Librarian & Regional Depository Coordinator, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
- Ben Amata, Humanities/Social Sciences/Government Information Librarian, University Library, California State University, Sacramento

Tracking Government Information is a crowdsourcing project to track removed and modified Government information and resources, and to point people to archived copies of content whenever possible. While libraries in the FDLP are familiar with our depository materials and are aware of the safeguards in place for digital depository materials, it can be harder to understand the impact of the currently changing Gov info landscape on information and data beyond the depository collection. In addition, many of us are receiving questions from our patrons on what is happening with Government information right now and how to find materials that they used to use that are no longer online. In this presentation, we will address current events, how the work of FDLP libraries intersects with broader public access concerns, and how depository librarians can play a role in identifying, documenting, and responding to risks to Federal information that fall outside the scope of traditional depository holdings. We will also discuss the value of collaboration between depository and non-depository efforts to support a more comprehensive national strategy for Government information access.

4:30-4:45 **Break**

4:45–5:30 **DLC Wrap Up & Closing**

- Angela Bonnell, Depository Library Council Chair, Head of Government Information and Maps, Milner Library, Illinois State University
- Members of the DLC

During this session, Council will review and discuss conference takeaways and DLC action items.

5:30 **Adjourn**

****All times are displayed in Eastern Time (ET).*